



1600 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 654-2309

County-State Claims Payment Processing Improvement Task Force

Meeting Notes – September 8, 2008

Launched in January 2008, the California Department of Mental Health created a C/S CPPITF to improve the Specialty Mental Health claims payment processing and services between the county and state. This Task Force will evaluate and recommend processes, tools and systems that can help to improve the current claims filing and reimbursement process between counties and the state. The Task Force will engage partners such as the Department of Health Care Services, Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, APS, and County Mental Health Directors to develop ways to improve the county claims payment processing system. These are the brief and summarized notes from our meeting.

Attendance: Marcelo Acob (DMH), Maria Barteaux (SF County by phone), Bob Cutler (DMH consultant), Denise Blair (DMH), Toquyen Collier (DMH), Catherine Hendon (DMH), Susan King (ADP by phone), Don Kingdon (CMHDA by phone), Bill Ullom (APS), Maria Mabey (Riverside County by phone), Carolynn Michaels (DMH), John Moore (Orange County by phone), Sara Murillo (DMH), Vonnie Ryser (DMH), Leslie Sorrells (Orange County by phone), Sean Tracy (DMH).

New action items:

- **Once Robert Joy, new SDII project management consultant to DMH, receives an e-mail account, DMH will distribute his contact information to Task Force membership.**
- **Counties and APS suggest that the NPI deadline for the 270/271 requirement should be addressed at the next Thursday SDII County Workgroup conference call.**
- **Counties requested that Good Cause be allowed for system testing. Stan Bajorin (DMH) is working with DHCS on this issue.**
- **The responsibility for the OSAE reports will be transitioned to divisions tentatively scheduled for September 2008. Example: The Claims Processing Report will transition to Admin/Fiscal; Internal Controls to Admin and Hospitals; MHSA has been with the Community Services Division since the release of the OSAE review.**

Old action items:

- **DMH presented an environmental scan of the various claiming groups, along with brief descriptions of each group. Task Force members are asked to review and provide any feedback to DMH (Catherine Hendon).**
- **APS Healthcare inquired as to whether CMS stratified their sample. DMH will research this and report back at the next Task Force meeting.**

Welcome, introductions, and updates:

1. All members introduced themselves.
2. Introduction of Aaron Jones, new DMH Information Security Officer.
3. Review of prior meeting action items and notes. Task Force members are asked to submit any feedback to Catherine Hendon, DMH.
4. Agenda items 1 – 4 are to be addressed at future meetings as DMH is vetting these policy decisions internally.
5. Catherine Hendon will distribute e-mail contact information for Robert Joy, new SDII project management consultant to DMH, to the Task Force members.

Discussion Points:

6. Contract Negotiation
 - a. Every three years, the State-County MHP Contract is renegotiated.
 - b. For the current contract negotiation process, the administrative portion is complete. The financial pieces are currently being discussed.
 - c. The target date for submitting the contract proposal to counties for review is January 2009.
 - d. The deadline is to have the contract finalized by June 2009.
 - e. Providers will be able to view the proposed contract after the State and Counties have agreed on contract provisions.
7. Bob Cutler has begun documenting meeting minutes for the Thursday SDII County Workgroup conference calls. Robert Joy will ensure that the documentation of county issues is carried on after Bob Cutler leaves the SDII project on September 12, 2008.
 - a. Beginning September 11, 2008, DHCS will be running the calls.
 - b. DHCS now understands the need to collaborate with counties and recognizes the value of county input.
 - c. Riverside supports and appreciates DMH and DHCS' continued efforts to include and assist counties with the SDII project.
8. The second companion guide review was held on September 4, 2008.
 - a. Counties, Vendors, DMH, DHCS, and ADP reviewed the changes to the 837I, 837P, and appendices (including void and replace scenarios).
 - b. DMH is meeting with DHCS to answer county questions from this meeting.

9. Regarding the IT conversion to SD Phase II, the DMH CIO suggests that counties maintain current systems until they are certain that they can successfully bill in SDII.
 - a. Counties should not rely on using good cause, because of the potential revenue loss.
10. APS noted that some counties are concerned about the feasibility of the SDII implementation timeline. However, it is also noted that counties have valuable tools such as the weekly conference calls, SDII timeline document and description, and companion guide to provide them with the necessary information and assistance to successfully participate in SDII in June 2009.
11. Regarding the SDII timeline document, DMH is waiting for DHCS to confirm the pending milestones. DMH's goal was to stagger the milestones to assist counties in their testing processes.
12. The Task Force approved the layout and content of the Claims Initiatives Environmental Scan. Any further feedback should be sent to Catherine Hendon, DMH.
13. The DMH Internal Auditor and Information Security Officer are also reviewing the claims processes.
14. Counties and APS suggest that the NPI deadline for the 270/271 requirement should be addressed at the next Thursday SDII County Workgroup conference call.

2:35 p.m. Adjourn